

Abstract

Pharmaceutical preparations of quinine (injection solutions), sulfanilamide, aminophenazone, barbital (tablets), caffeine, phenobarbital (dragee), and theophylline (suppositories) about seventy years old were analyzed using RP-HPLC. Samples were quantified by HPLC-UV and UV-spectrophotometry. Products of degradation were identified using HPLC-UV and HPLC-MS. Conditions of separation were optimized. The samples of quinine injection solutions consist of 92% or 87% of declared quinine content. Quinotoxine has been identified as the product of quinine degradation. The quantification of theophylline in suppositories and caffeine in dragee did not show any degradation after more than 67 years from their manufacturing. Decrease of potent amount (decrease about 8–22 %) were found in drugs containing sulfanilamide, barbital, phenobarbital and aminophenazone. Products of degradation of these pharmaceuticals were not found.